



U.S. Department of Justice

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NEW HAMPSHIRE WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BANK FRAUD

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Hollis Police Chief Richard H. Darling, and Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Boston Field Office Kenneth W. Kaiser, announced that Renee Goodhue, 32, of Nashua, New Hampshire, pleaded guilty yesterday in the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire to two counts of bank fraud involving schemes to defraud her former employers, Alpine Grove, Incorporated, and PATJO, Incorporated, of approximately \$200,000.00 during the period from the Fall of 2000 through September 2003. Ms. Goodhue waived her right to have the charges considered by a grand jury and agreed to plead guilty to charges filed by the United States Attorney.

A sentencing hearing is scheduled for August 30, 2005 at the United States District Court. The statutory maximum penalty for bank fraud is 30 years of imprisonment. The advisory sentencing guidelines for bank fraud provide for a sentence of less than 30 years, so it is likely Ms. Goodhue will be sentenced to a shorter term of imprisonment.

The charges arose from Ms. Goodhue's service as a bookkeeper to the two corporations. While serving as the bookkeeper, Ms. Goodhue wrote unauthorized checks to herself and others and deposited them in her private accounts. She also deleted checks from the corporations' computer systems to thwart the discovery of the fraud. Finally, she purchased money orders with corporate checks and then deposited the money orders in her private accounts as a means of hiding the fraud.

U.S. Attorney Tom Colantuono stated: "White collar fraud crimes are among the most difficult to detect and prevent. This office is committed to prosecuting those individuals who choose to defraud their employers and abuse the positions they are entrusted with holding. By holding such persons accountable for their actions, we hope to deter others who may consider reaching into the corporate till."

The case was investigated by the Hollis Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Donald Feith.

